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HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1911.

日八初月一十年三統宣

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Sir Paul Chater, Kt., C.M.G.
T. P. Hough, Esq., C. J. Lafrance, Esq.
Hongkong Nov. 6, 1911. 1424

NAVAL OFFICERS GALLANT DEATH.

Details are to hand of the gallant fight for life of Commander Frederic Brine, of H.M.S. St. Vincent, who was drowned off Land's End at daybreak one day a month ago. A hurricane was blowing as the squadron rounded Land's End and the Commander went on deck at 6.30 a.m. to see to the securing of the port accommodation ladder, which, it was reported, was hanging over the ship's side and being broken up by the heavy sea. A moment later he was swept overboard. Then began a magnificent but ineffectual fight for life. In turn the Commander managed to divest himself of his coat, boots and trousers, and succeeded in tearing a shreds a heavy white sweater. Ultimately, when the lifeboat reached him he was found to be extinct.

KNOCK-OUT SLOW NOT PAINFUL.

Body Can be Educated to Stand Punishment.

The anatomical aspect of boxing was spoken of by Dr. Allport, medical adviser to the Amateur Boxing Association, during the test case at Birmingham over the proposed Morn-Driest match. His evidence was interesting.

The human body, he said, was capable of being educated to progressive amounts of physical shock, just in the same way that it could be educated to lift heavy weights from the ground. One of the most important objects of boxing was to educate the body so as to receive progressive amounts of shock—in other words, so as to enable it to take punishment. The point to which this was carried in boxing was extraordinary. A blow on the point of the chin was more likely to cause a knock-out than anything else. The knock-out was not painful. He thought the probability was that the Morn and Driest contest would go the twenty rounds. Supposing one got the knock-out blow, it would not cause the smallest injury. Sir Robert Simon and Sir Thomas Chavasse, two Birmingham medical men gave evidence supporting Dr. Allport.

MUSCULAR RHEUMATISM.

It is worse than useless to take any medicines internally for muscular or chronic rheumatism. All that is needed is a free application of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

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To Advertisers, S.S. Companies & Captains of Passenger Steamers.

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Hongkong

Dispensary,

Hongkong, October 2, 1911



ROSENSTOCK'S

1912 Directory

OF CHINA AND MANILA.

will contain a Complete Directory and Classified Business Lists of all Principal Towns in the Territory covered.

New Firms, Associations, etc., are requested to send in their names to the local office—

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Hongkong, December 22, 1911.

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Hongkong, November 10, 1909.

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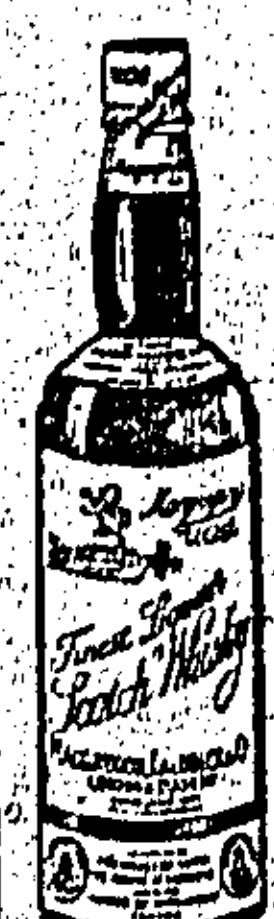
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FRANCISCO TSE YAT, General Manager.
Hongkong, August 12, 1903. 1738

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Telephone 189.
Hongkong, August 15, 1910. 1773

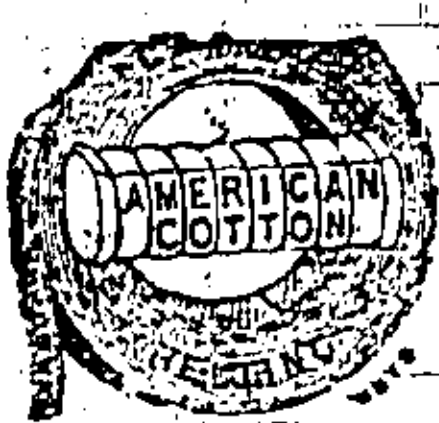
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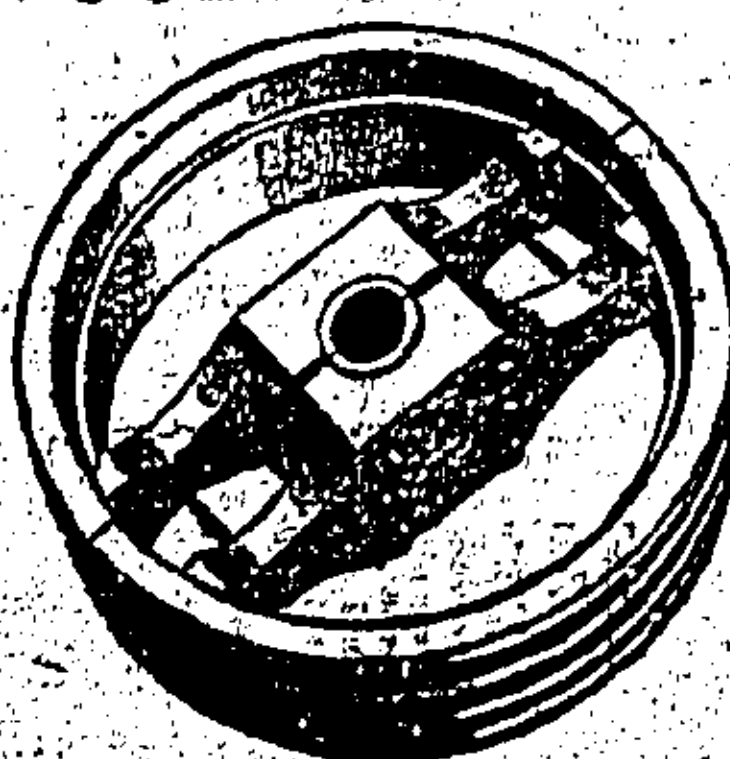
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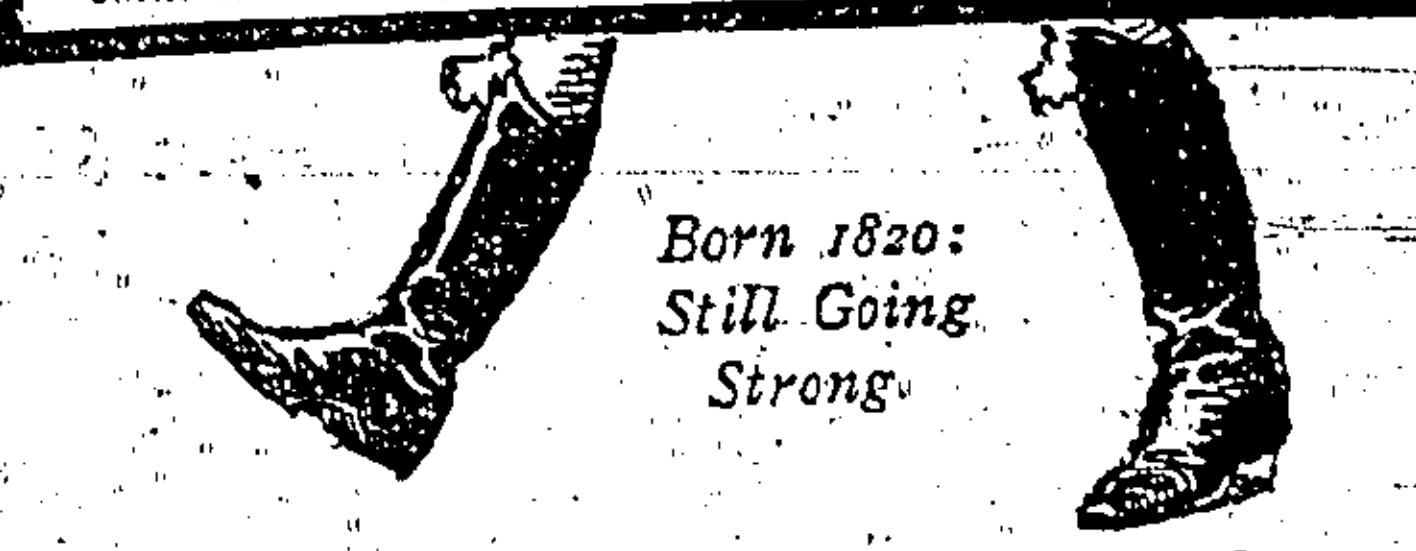
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Why, the man who is "particular" about the perfect
maturity of his whisky. He knows that every drop
of Johnnie Walker can be absolutely depended on
as perfectly mature, because the proprietors of
Johnnie Walker maintain the largest "ageing"
reserve in the trade—three-and-a-half million gallons
of pure malt Scotch whisky always in bond, maturing—

"JOHNNIE WALKER" White Label. Over 6 years old.
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KAMP & CO., Shanghai.
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SOLE PROPRIETORS OF TAKA-
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Ltd.

For particulars, apply to
Y. SHIBUYA,
Manager,
No. 2, PARKER STREET,
HONGKONG.
Hongkong, April 29, 1911. 816

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL
MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE
above CLUB will be held on WEDNES-
DAY, the 10th January, 1912, in the
Office of the Jockey Club, No. 3, Charter
Road, at 10.30 a.m., for the purpose of
confirming the following Special Resolution
carried at the Extraordinary General Meet-
ing of Members held on Saturday, the 23rd
December, 1911, viz:—

That the words "Kiangwan Race Club"
(Shanghai) be added to Rule 1 Part
1 of the Rules of Racing.
By Order,
T. F. HOUGH,
Clerk of the Course.
Hongkong, December 26, 1911. 1668

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE dates of the ANNUAL RACE
MEETING originally fixed for the
13th, 14th and 15th February, 1912, are
altered to one week later, the RACE
MEETING will be held on TUESDAY,
20th, THURSDAY, 22nd and FRIDAY,
23rd, February, 1912, thereby coinciding
with the usual holidays following the
Chinese New Year.

The Entries will close one week later
than the date already fixed, viz., Saturday,
the 20th January, 1912.
In all other respects the programme as
issued will stand.
By Order,
T. F. HOUGH,
Clerk of the Course.
Hongkong, December 26, 1911. 1269

NOTICE.

ADVERTISER sends FREE on appli-
cation catalogues of French books on
Cosmetics, Outfitters, History, Amour,
Novels and 18th Century. Address: E.
DARACQ, Bookellers, 21, Boulevard, 96,
rue Blanche, Paris, (France).
Hongkong, October 11, 1911. 1239

NATIONAL INSURANCE BILL.

Its Financial and Actuarial
Aspects.

[BY WALTER BORDLAND, F.I.A.]

The principle of the Bill, so far as the
object is concerned, is accepted by all, in
fact it was virtually accepted before the
measure itself was introduced. Under our
Poor Law System the State has long since
acknowledged that a person is entitled at
least to the necessities of life and under
the Old Age Pension Act it acknowledges
responsibility for people over 70 years of
age. The principle, then, that at a certain
period of life the duty of maintenance lies,
not with the individual but with the State,
has already been accepted, and if
the principle be true, then it must
extend to provision for any cause what-
ever and not merely because a person is
over 70 years of age. We have only then
been waiting for a scheme to acknowledge
financially these obligations—obligations
that have already been acknowledged in
principle.

This Scheme has now come along and in
it appears the new dual principle of
compulsory contribution.
Compulsion in any form is often looked
upon by the British people as being
entirely antagonistic to the spirit of liberty
which is their national birthright and
must, therefore, be avoided as a gross
interference with their freedom.

But compulsion does not necessarily
mean interference with liberty—it may in-
terfere with an individual's liberty but
that may be necessary for the liberty of
others. For example, to compel a man to
be imprisoned is to interfere with his
liberty, but, in that act of compulsion, you
remove a dangerous person from the com-
munity and thereby you give freedom and
liberty to the community.

Does not the same argument hold for
compulsory insurance?

About 4 million people have already made
some provision against sickness and have
thereby prevented themselves from becom-
ing a burden on the community. But
about double that number have made no
provision, with the result that many of
these will ultimately have to fall back on
the community for support.

This means that the former class, the
thrifty, besides providing for itself, will be
compelled to pay its share of the burden
laid upon the community by the neglect
and improvidence of those other people.
The community, therefore, has a right, for
its own protection, to compel every person
to make some provision.

For various reasons a contributory
system for National Sickness Insurance is
necessary. In the first place a purely
State Scheme, whereby the money required
for sickness benefit would be budgeted
for each year, is entirely out of the ques-
tion. It would work alright for death
benefit but not for sickness. It may be
taken that the natural law of sickness is
quite as stable as that of mortality, and
apparently therefore, it may be argued if a
purely State Scheme could be adopted for
death, then surely it would hold for
sickness. But it is not so. If you
insure a man for a sum payable at death,
all you have to do is to see that
he is in good health, etc., at the outbreak
and you can depend upon it that
he will keep himself alive as long as pos-
sible. In Sickness Insurance, however,
the human will element plays a part,
namely a large part, and experience shows
that the more sick pay allowed the greater
effect has this element.

the rates of sickness. This will element
has, therefore, to be controlled and the
only effective way of doing so is to have
the supervision of the members' own mates.
In a Friendly Society this is obtained
because the members know that if claims
are paid which really should not be paid
then the result will be that a deficiency will
be shown at the valuation necessitating
either imposition of levies or modification
of benefits. It is therefore in the interest
of the members to control the claims, i.e.,
in effect to watch over each other.

Now, in a purely State Scheme, the
members having nothing directly at stake,
this very necessary supervision would be
lost. In short, to finance a purely State
System of Sickness Insurance would be
beyond the limits of practical politics. In
three years or so we have seen the
estimates given for cost of working the
Workmen's Compensation Act and
Old Age Pension Act, exceeded by the
wildest expectations, but what would
happen in a State Scheme of Sickness
Insurance I sincerely trust that no
Chancellor of the Exchequer will ever try
to find out; so long, at least, as human
nature remains what it is. The financial
necessity for a contributory system is,
therefore, quite obvious.

The Actuarial employed by the Gov-
ernment in connection with the Insurance
Bill were Messrs G. F. Hardy and F. B.
Wynt, and the basis and results of their
calculations are given in a Report issued
by the Treasury.

Now, it is imperative for me to say here
that although these gentlemen were con-
sulted, it does not follow that they approve
of the Bill. We have no public indication
that they either approve or disapprove of
it. All that we do know is that certain
information was required of them and that
was given to the best of their ability—
which I may say was the highest to be
obtained in the country.

In fact, Sir G. H. Ryan, President of the
Institute, found occasion to say, "I should
remind you that the Actuaries are in no
sense responsible for the broad design of
the scheme, or for what Architects term
the 'elevation' of the building raised upon
the foundation they have certified. We
might imagine from what we occasionally
hear and read that the details and scope of
the Government measure had been sug-
gested or approved by the Actuaries, but
this is not so in the least. Their functions
began and ended with these actuarial
calculations and estimates which the
Chancellor of the Exchequer required them
to make in accordance with the specific
terms of his reference."

This statement should, I think, make
the position of the Actuaries perfectly
clear.

From their Report we are informed how
the estimates of the number of people
coming within the scope of the Bill were
arrived at. I shall spare you the ordeal
of hearing the details of these statistical
operations, but I may say that the numbers
given can only be regarded as roughly
approximate. The data available for their
use was very unsatisfactory.

The Registrar General's returns for the
1901 Census were the most recent available
and from these they had to work up their
figures to 1st May 1910, the date of imple-
mentation of the scheme. You will understand
then that the population estimated to come
under the scheme can only be regarded as
approximate in spite of all the skillful
corrective measures they adopted.

The effect of any error in these estimates
on the members' contributions may be
negligible, still the cost to the State will
be greater or less according as the estimates
are less or greater. The increase or
decrease in the total cost to the State will
be in about the same proportion as the
population actually brought under the
Scheme bears to the total population
estimated to be involved. It is regrettable
that the 1911 Census Returns were not
available for their use. Again the age dis-
tribution of the population may have
undergone some change in view of the
great amount of emigration that has
been taking place in recent years.

This is rather important, as any change in
the age distribution would have some bearing
on the contributions payable since the
same rate of contribution is being made for
all ages.

The most important part of their report
which I must draw your particular attention
to is that relating to the rates of sickness
and disablement to be adopted in their
calculations. As the rates of sickness will
have much bearing on the finance of the
(Continued on page 3.)

The Man Who
Gets There

Is the man who has blood-
real rich red blood and
plenty of it in his body.
WATERBURY'S
METABOLIZED
COD LIVER OIL
COMPOUND
makes blood—lots of it—life-
giving, brain-nourishing,
strength-replenishing blood.

OF ALL CHEMISTS

TAKES 3/6 AND 6/6

NERVOUS EXHAUSTION.
THE MODERN METHOD OF
CURING NEURASTHENIA.

ALTHOUGH Neurasthenia is a term of
quite modern use, and embraces a
very great number of symptoms, nervous
exhaustion is a condition which has long
been known.

Among the commonest symptoms are
head-ache, a sense of pressure within the
head, sometimes a feeling of cold on the
top of the head, and, as others, as it is an
iron hand were pressing into the brain.
These sensations are particularly apt to
occur when the sufferer endeavours to con-
centrate his thoughts for a little while.
Again, there is marked indigestion and
loss of appetite, with pain in the region of
the stomach, heart-burn, nausea or vomit-
ing, sleeplessness, a feeling of oppression,
shortness of breath or palpitation of the
heart, nervous twitchings of the hands,
and an uncertain gait with pains in the
back which, happily, do not mean locomotor
ataxy any more than the feeling of
pressure on the head denotes softening of
the brain, as sufferers invariably fear.

All these nervous sensations are capable
of being remarkably improved, and even
perfectly cured, by means of Sanatogen.
The medical evidence on this point is
exceedingly large and overwhelmingly
conclusive. In fact, no sufferer from
neurasthenia, in whatever form the nervous
exhaustion may manifest itself, need have
the least cause for despair or even anxiety
if only he will take Sanatogen and keep
on with it. No more striking proof of its
wonderful power can be desired than is set
forth by Madame Sarah Grand—the dis-
tinguished novelist, who was incapacitated
for work for four years by nervous ex-
haustion, and after taking it three times a
day for four months, was as well as she had
ever been in her life. Here are Madame
Grand's own words:—"Sanatogen
has done everything for which it is said
to be able to do for cases of nervous
debility and exhaustion. I began to take
it, three times a day, after nearly four
years enforced idleness from extreme
debility, and now (after only four months)
I find myself able to do my work and
play again, and also able to do as much of
both as I ever did."
Sanatogen can be obtained at all chemists.

Rowland's
Kalydor

Makes your skin soft
and smooth.
You can easily have a clear, velvety,
healthy complexion by using
Rowland's
Kalydor
"For Your Skin."

This world-famous preparation quickly
removes freckles, redness, roughness,
eczema, and other blemishes of the skin.
It is a sure remedy for all skin troubles—
whether you are a man or a woman. It is
always ready to use it night and day.
Get it from your chemist, Rowland's &
Sons, 67, Hatton Garden, London, E.C.1.
Sold by all chemists and druggists.
Rowland's Kalydor, of 67, Hatton Garden,
London, and avoid spurious imitations.

ASAHI BEER



OBTAINABLE EVERYWHERE.

SOLE AGENTS

MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA.
Hongkong, December 17, 1910. 6122

BACON & HAM

Do you want the best for your
table?
SEND US YOUR ORDERS.
We stock a daintily first quality
Australian dried cured Bacon and
Ham.

Prices Moderate.

THE DAIRY FARM CO., LTD.

Hongkong, December 15, 1911. 6123

HONGKONG, DECEMBER 15, 1911. 6123

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Intimations.

EYESIGHT
TESTING

no longer consists entirely of placing
innumerable lenses before one's eyes
until the patient becomes so confused
that accuracy is practically impossible.
Our testing room is finished in dark
block and is fitted with instruments
that accurately measure eye defects.
We supply you with right-seeing,
right-fitting glasses.
We guarantee every pair.



Hongkong, February 14, 1911. 17

THEATRE ROYAL.

TWO NIGHTS ONLY
DECEMBER 28th AND 29th.
W. RONALD CROOKE
PRESENTS THE
London Musical
Comedy Co.

REFINED AND UNIQUE
ENTERTAINMENT.
Acknowledged to be the strongest combi-
nation that has ever toured the East.
PRICES AS USUAL.
Plans open at The ROBINSON PIANO Co.
Hongkong, December 21, 1911. 1845

NOTICE.

I have this day authorised Mr.
SOOMABHOY MOWJEE to sign
my firm,
D. PARANET.
Hongkong, December 23, 1911. 1866

NOTICE.

WE have this day been appointed
AGENTS for the SWEDISH
EAST ASIATIC CO., LTD., Gothenburg.
ARTHUR NILSSON & CO.
Stockholm, 1st of November, 1911. 1862

NOTICE.

WE have this day established ourselves
as IMPORT & EXPORT MER-
CHANTS, COMMISSION & STEAM
SHIP AGENTS.
ARTHUR NILSSON & CO.
Hongkong, December 20, 1911. 1863

NOTICE.

IF you can speak and write English
correctly. If you can do neither you
should take lessons by the new method
which ensures ability to speak the language
in THREE MONTHS.

A Reduction of 25% in
Class Fees.

Hours: 10 A.M. to 11 P.M.
For further particulars apply to
THE DIRECTOR,
School of English,
2nd Floor,
ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.
Hongkong, December 19, 1911. 1820

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Hongkong, December 20, 1911. 1863

NOTICE.

IF you can speak and write English
correctly. If you can



Hughes & Hough

Capital Auctioneers
Public Auctioneers
 22, DES VEAUX ROAD, HONGKONG.
 Auctioneers for the Government.
 Auctioneers for the Government.
 Auctioneers for the Government.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Underigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on **FRIDAY**, the 29th December, 1911, at 2.30 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street, — A Large Quantity of **VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE**, &c., &c., &c.
 As follows:—Silk Tapestry covered Drawing Room Suite, Hatstands, Sideboards, Overmantels, &c., with Brevell Mirrors, Extension Dining Tables, Dinner Waggon, Chairs, &c., Marble-top Bureau, Washstands, Wardrobes, Brass Bedsteads (Double and Single), Armchairs and Tinsmin Carpets and Rugs, Glass, Electroplated and Crockery Ware, Cooking Stoves, &c., &c., &c.
 Also
 A quantity of Good Blackwood Furniture, One Large Roll-top Desk, One American Ice Chest, and One Piano by Morrington & Wriston.
 On View from **THURSDAY**, Catalogues will be issued.
 Terms—As usual.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
 Auctioneers.
 Hongkong, December 21, 1911. 1644

DRAGON CYCLE DEPOT

MOTOR CARS ON HIRE

TYPEWRITERS ON HIRE

Repairs to Typewriters.

Phone 482.

Hongkong, January 18, 1911 82

E. C. WILKS,

CONSULTING ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR for the Purchase, or sale, of Steamships or Launches.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS,
 2nd FLOOR.
 Hongkong, May 2, 1911 400

SIEN TING, Surgeon Dentist.

No. 14, D'ARVILLE STREET.

TERMS VERY MODERATE.
 Consultation Free.

THE CHINESE MAIL

THE LARGEST CHINESE POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

CONTAINS THE MOST RELIABLE TELEGRAPHIC NEWS FROM NORTH CHINA.

AM THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM THE VARIOUS PORTS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

per Annum delivered in Hongkong, \$12.50 to all other ports.

5, WELLINGTON STREET, HONGKONG.

GEO. P. LAMMERT AUCTIONEER.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Underigned has received instructions from Messrs PERCY SMITH, SETH & FLEMING, the Liquidators of GEO. FENWICK & Co. Ltd., in Liquidation, to sell by Public Auction, on **THURSDAY and FRIDAY**, the 28th and 29th December, each day commencing at 10.30 A.M., at the Works, No. 13, Praya East, Wanchai, — A NUMBER OF ENGINEERS' AND BOILERMAKERS' MACHINE TOOLS including LATHS, SLOTTING & DRILLING MACHINES, BOILER SHELL DRILLING MACHINE, PUNCHING and SHEARING MACHINES, Screwing Machines, Root Blower, PLATE BENDING & PLATE FLATTENING ROLLS, Steam Engines and Boilers and a quantity of line Shafting and Pulleys. ONE NEW, MODERN TYPE, PLANING MACHINE, and a quantity of Machine and Hand Tools and general Engineers' Sundries.
 Foundry Crane and Lathes.
 Also
 A large Stock of Materials comprising Steel, Iron and Copper in Bars, Tubes and Sheets, Tool Steel, Pipe Fittings, Brass and Gun-metal, Steam and Water Fittings, Bolts and Nuts, Rivets, &c., &c., &c.
 And
 TWO STEAM LAUNCHES, and Two Sets of Sheet Legs 25 and 50 Tons Capacity.
 Terms—Cash on delivery.
 On view from Monday, the 18th inst.
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
 Auctioneer.
 Hongkong, December 14, 1911. 1598

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
 GENERAL MANAGERS, HONGKONG.
J. T. HAMILTON, GENERAL MANAGER FOR THE EAST, TOKYO.
 Total Assets Dec. 31, 1910...\$4,944,715,925
 Surplus...88,006,459
 Dividends to Policyholders 1910...10,575,157
 Total paid Policyholders 1910...53,439,360
 Total Expenses for 1910...10,392,032
 Gross earnings from Interest and Rents for 1910...21,846,528
 Gross sale of Income from Investments 1910...4,487,474
 Hongkong, May 30, 1911. 727

CHEN KWONG & CO., LD.

GENERAL IMPORT & EXPORT.

CANTON'S LARGE WHOLESALE & RETAIL STORE.

FURNITURE, Draperys, Groceries, Book and Shoes.
 Makers of Jewellery, Lacquerware, Crockery Ware.
 Ironmongery, Wine and Spirits.
 Foreign Clothes for gentlemen made to order by our own tailors.
 Large assortment of Chinese Silks and Foreign Goods of every description.
 All goods sold at reasonable Prices.
 The Cheapest and Best place in Canton to buy Chinese and Foreign Goods.
SUP FAT POO STREET.
 TEL. NO. 1408. CANTON.
 Canton, August 1, 1911. 978

JAPANESE MAKERS.



CHERRY & CO.,

PEDDER STREET, Opposite Hongkong Hotel.

foongkong, May 6, 1911. 67

THE CHINA MAIL

Typhoon Map & Guide.

Prior 40 cents.

NO CURE NO FEE

THE THERAPION NO. 1

THE THERAPION NO. 2

THE THERAPION NO. 3

THE THERAPION NO. 4

scheme, a consideration of this subject will be profitable. There are no statistics dealing adequately with the rates of sickness in the United Kingdom generally, neither was there available any combined experience of Friendly Societies during recent years. Recourse was had to the results of the extensive investigation of the experience of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows. The experience was for the five years 1893-1897 and dealt only with Male Lives and has been considered fairly representative of the general experience of Friendly Societies.

The rate of sickness increases with the age and also varies according to occupation. In this experience the rates of sickness were investigated for four different groups of occupations.

In the 1st group were included persons considered not to be subject to special risks involving heavier sickness. In the 2nd group, Outdoor Building Trades etc.

In the 3rd group, Quarry Workers, Train and Steel Workers, etc.

In the 4th group, Mining Occupations.

From the rates of sickness of each of these groups, an average rate of sickness was found to represent the population estimated to come under the State Scheme.

This average rate of sickness was found to be about 10 per cent greater than that of the general Manchester Unity Standard for nearly all ages.

Now under the Government Scheme when a person is entitled to a benefit under the Workmen's Compensation Act of an amount equal to a greater than that payable under the Scheme, no benefit will be paid at all by the approved Society. If the amount be less than the Society will pay the difference.

As the Manchester Unity rates include all sickness whether arising from accident or disease, a considerable saving is thus effected.

The population protected by the Workmen's Compensation Act is about 7½ millions, i.e. fully one-half of the number estimated to come under the Scheme.

This saving was roughly estimated by the Actuaries as being well over 10 per cent of the sickness claims.

In view of this, the Actuaries decided to adopt as their basis the general Manchester Unity standard rates. Another point which led them to adopt this basis was that the Manchester Unity rates provide for sickness from 1st day after notice whereas in the Bill, benefit is only allowed from the 4th day after notice. This allowed a saving of 3 days sickness, which the Actuaries considered should be kept as a margin. This margin however is going to be lost as some extension of benefits is promised in its place.

How far this average rate of sickness will hold is very doubtful.

In the first place, past experience has shown that the tendency is for the sickness rates to increase, in fact it is usually found that the lower the rate of mortality the higher the rate of sickness. This is in part due to increased medical skill whereby a sick man can be kept alive longer and can be cured again to be sick at a later period.

Another consideration is that under the State Scheme people are compelled to contribute and must find a Society to take them, if possible. This factor of compulsion will certainly cause a large increase in the rates of sickness. If you compel a man to insure against sickness, you will generally find a determination on his part to get his money back somehow or other.

I remember an incident which occurred some 8 or 9 years ago. It was, fortunately, more amusing than serious but illustrated my point. A railway was being extended from Lanarkshire into Ayrshire and the natives in a certain village had a deduction made from their wages for medical attendance and medicine. During a period of severe frost rather a serious run took place on the local Surgery for catarrhs of the nose. A railway was being extended from Lanarkshire into Ayrshire and the natives in a certain village had a deduction made from their wages for medical attendance and medicine. During a period of severe frost rather a serious run took place on the local Surgery for catarrhs of the nose.

On Saturday afternoon fully a score of workmen called in rapid succession for a supply. The lady in charge thought something was seriously wrong and later on she reported the matter to the Doctor. He had heard nothing but took a run up to the house. He found everybody in good health and discovered that the catarrh of the nose was being used for their boots. Now when you consider the large influence which the person's Element has upon the Sickness Rates, it seems that the hope that the rates of sickness of a Selfish Friendly Society like the Manchester Unity will measure the rates to be experienced under a compulsory scheme, is a hope not born of this earth.

(To be Continued.)

A rate war, says the L. and O. Express, has broken out between the pool lines to the Far East (to which belong the Hamburg-America Line and the Hansa Line), and the Richmores Siberia Line.

The pool line has put in action the Shipowners' Syndicate which was established five years ago by the large regular steamship companies at Hamburg with a view to meeting outside competition. The Richmores Line regarding the transport of soya beans from Wladivostok having been without result, the syndicate now announces departures on Dec. 4 from Antwerp, and on Dec. 14 from Hamburg to Wladivostok.

THE WISE MOTHER.

THE most prominent physician in the country cannot produce better results in the treatment of coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough than the wise mother with a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. This always keeps it in a handy place and knows where to lay her hands upon it. With a few doses of this remedy she gets the cold under control at its beginning and avoids all danger of serious results. It contains absolutely nothing injurious and is the mother's friend in all cases of cold, cough, croup, whooping cough, and all other ailments of the throat and lungs.

FOR SALE, TOR-CHIST, at Peak, commanding magnificent view of the Harbor and adjacent islands.

Apply to **LINSTRAL & DAVID,** 2nd Floor, Alexandra Buildings, Hongkong, Aug. 2, 1911. 18

NO. 37, PRAYA GRANDE, MACAO.
BEACONSFIELD ARCADE
 (Shop) opposite The Old Post Office.
 No. 2A, D'ARVILLE STREET suitable for godown, etc., lately occupied by Vienna Cof. Co. For Particulars and etc.
 Apply to **CHANG FAT,** c/o YEE SANG FAT & CO., Hongkong, June 29, 1911. 68

TO LET.
 OFFICES TO LET: First-Class central accommodation, light and airy, on First, Second, or Third Floor, in new building being erected for Messrs WHITE WAY, LAIDLAW & CO. LD. Entrance from Des Vaux Road. Electric Lift to all floors, Electric Light throughout. The plan can be seen and all particulars obtained at the Office of Messrs PALMER & TURNER, Alexandra Buildings, 2nd Floor.
 Hongkong, December 9, 1911. 1266

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WHITEAWAY'S

For Choice Presents

A CONSIGNMENT OF

PARISIENNE NOVELTIES

Including Feather Boas, Silk Evening Wraps, etc.

Exclusive Styles, Keen Cash Prices.

Whiteaway, Laidlaw & Co., Ltd., 25, Des Vaux Road.

To Let.

TO LET.
UNFURNISHED FLAT in Macdonnell Road, from January 1st, 1912.
 Apply No. 13, MACDONNELL RD.
 Hongkong, December 26, 1911. 1570

TO LET.
CRAGSIDE, BARKER ROAD, Peak.
 Furnished, for ten months, from March 1st next at tennis court.
 Apply **A. H. SKELLTON,** Care of Lane, Crawford & Co.
 Hongkong, November 30, 1911. 1529

TO LET.
OFFICES on First Floor of HOTEL MANSIONS facing New Post Office.
 Apply to **HENRY HUMPHREYS** Alexandra Buildings.
 Hongkong, December 20, 1911. 1637

TO LET.
GODOWN No. 4, NEW PRATA, Kennedy Town.
 Apply to **THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO. LD.**
 Hongkong, December 1, 1911. 1051

TO LET.
OFFICES in KING'S BUILDING.
 Apply to **THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO. LD.**
 Hongkong, December 14, 1911. 1594

TO LET.
NEW & Commodious SHOPS, NATIAS Road, Kowloon, immediate possession.
 Apply to **HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO. LTD.**
 Hongkong, March 23, 1909. 840

TO BE LET.
 On or about 1st MARCH, 1912.
SHOPS and OFFICE, in ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS, adjoining the Hongkong Dispensary, at present occupied by Messrs Wm. Powell, Ltd.
 A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd., Alexandra Buildings.
 Hongkong, August 29, 1911. 1111

TO LET.
NO. 34, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL (Shop) opposite The Old Post Office.
 No. 2A, D'ARVILLE STREET suitable for godown, etc., lately occupied by Vienna Cof. Co. For Particulars and etc.
 Apply to **CHANG FAT,** c/o YEE SANG FAT & CO., Hongkong, June 29, 1911. 68

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OFFICES TO LET: First-Class central accommodation, light and airy, on First, Second, or Third Floor, in new building being erected for Messrs WHITE WAY, LAIDLAW & CO. LD. Entrance from Des Vaux Road. Electric Lift to all floors, Electric Light throughout. The plan can be seen and all particulars obtained at the Office of Messrs PALMER & TURNER, Alexandra Buildings, 2nd Floor.
 Hongkong, December 9, 1911. 1266

TO LET.
NO. 37, PRAYA GRANDE, MACAO.
BEACONSFIELD ARCADE
 (Shop) opposite The Old Post Office.
 No. 2A, D'ARVILLE STREET suitable for godown, etc., lately occupied by Vienna Cof. Co. For Particulars and etc.
 Apply to **CHANG FAT,** c/o YEE SANG FAT & CO., Hongkong, June 29, 1911. 68

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NO. 37, PRAYA GRANDE, MACAO.
BEACONSFIELD ARCADE
 (Shop)

Intimations.

Diss Bros
TAILORS

1, Wyndham Street,
(FLOWER ST.)

ESTABLISHED 1900.

Hongkong, October 20, 1911.

135

EXHIBITION! EXHIBITION! OF TRANSFORMING AND DISTORTING MIRRORS.

At PEDDER'S STREET—Opposite the Hongkong Hotel.

THE most wonderful, mysterious and fascinating delusions ever seen in the Colony.
The latest thing direct from London.
Come and see yourself and your friends transformed, distorted and distended into all sorts of extraordinary shapes before these LUNAR MIRRORS, and do not forget to bring your cameras with you so that you may secure caricatures of your own portrait.
PRICES OF ADMISSION:—Adults—50 cents. Children 30 cents.
Hongkong, December 19, 1911.

Weismann, Limited.

Bakers, Confectioners, Caterers,
Restauranters.

14, DES VŒUX ROAD CENTRAL.

Hongkong, July 20, 1910.

136

THE LEEDS FORGE CO., LD., LEEDS.

Specialists in the Manufacture of RAILWAY ROLLING STOCK of every description.
Pioneers in the design and manufacture of
PRESSED STEEL UNDERFRAMES AND BODIES AND ALL-STEEL
RAILWAY WAGGONS.

The Undersigned have been appointed Sole Agents in Hongkong and China.

**The Taikoo Dockyard and Engineering
Co. of Hongkong, Ltd.,**

AGENTS, BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Hongkong, October 3, 1911.

128

BEST HOUSEHOLD COAL.

Delivered free Kowloon:

\$10.50 per Ton.

Delivered free Hongkong:

\$11.50 per Ton.

Delivered free Peak District:

\$13.75 per Ton.

F. Blackhead & Co.,
Coal Merchants.

1555

THE CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING CO., LTD.

KAIPING COAL

Now well-known throughout the East for
STEAM RAISING, FORGING, STEEL MAKING, SHIPS' BUNKERS AND
HOUSEHOLD PURPOSES.

KAIPING COKE

Competes with the best quality English Coke for
FOUNDRY, SMELTING AND HOUSEHOLD PURPOSES.

HIGHEST FIREBRICKS GRADE FIRECLAY, STOCKS ALWAYS ON HAND.

OFFICES: QUEEN'S BUILDINGS, HONGKONG.
TEL. ADDRESS: MAISHAN, HONGKONG.
TELEPHONE: No. 869.

DODWELL & CO., LTD., Agents.

BEWARE OF FRY MILK ASK THE MODERN MILKMAN.

YOUR GROCER, FOR

'CARNATION'

BRAND

STERILIZED EVAPORATED

CREAM

AN UNSWEETENED CONDENSED MILK.

IT'S SAFE.

SAVE HALF YOUR MILK BILL.

The Robert Dollar Co.,

HOTEL MANSIONS.

Hongkong, September 7, 1911.

SCOTTISH LETTER.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)
EDINBURGH, November 28.

ROMANCE OF THE KILMARNOCK BURNS.

A Glasgow gentleman has bought a copy of the Kilmarnock Burns at the Huth Library sale for £730. This is not the highest figure at which a copy of this now rare edition of the poet's works has changed hands. Eight years ago, £1,000 was obtained for the famous Vane copy, which was acquired for the Burns Monument and Cottage Trustees. But it is £30 above what was given for the volume owned by the late Mr. William C. Van Antwerp, the New York stockbroker. The biggest jump which took place in the price of a Kilmarnock Edition occurred in 1898, when a copy belonging to the late Mr. A. C. Lamb, Dundee, was put on the book market in Edinburgh. This volume, in the early part of last century, was in the possession of a Glasgow family named Drummond. About 1850 it was purchased among a lot of odd books by Dr. Burns, a teacher of a private school at Rochester, and Dr. Burns, who was a native of Fife, offered the book for sale, so that the proceeds might be given to the Free Library of that town. Only two bidders appeared, and the volume was secured by the late Mr. G. B. Simpson, Broughty Ferry, for £26, 6s. In 1879, Mr. Simpson sold it to Mr. Lamb for £100, and on the latter's death nineteen years later, it fetched what was then regarded as the extraordinary high price of £572. These figures are all the more striking when it is recalled that the volume was originally published at 3s., and that the poet had the modest profit of £20. Another Burns relic, the original patent on vellum appointing "Robert Burns, gentleman," to the office of exciseman, was bought at the Huth sale by Mr. Quaritch for £500.

CAUSTIC LEGAL HUMOUR.

A London barrister has published a book on "Silly and Stuff," and in one of the chapters there are given several specimens of Lord Young's caustic legal humour. At dinner in the Middle Temple, a distinguished law Peer said to Young that he envied him the Advocate's Library at Edinburgh, and added, "I have no books in the House of Lords." "That accounts for some of your decisions," was Lord Young's reply. In the same vein, when some one congratulated Young on having a judgment upheld by the House he dryly remarked, "It may be right for all that." But what many people regard as Lord Young's wildest wit is not in this collection: that was his definition of a "damnum fatale" or Act of God as "something that no reasonable man would expect to happen." These stories remind one of Professor John Nichol's remark about a book of poetry by a rather shallow writer, "Ah," he said, "An excellent title, 'Do Profundis,'—out of his depth."

MISCELLANEA.

A marriage has been arranged, and will take place shortly, between Jessie Serice, only daughter of the late E. J. Macrae and Mrs. Macrae of Tipton, North China, and Captain P. J. M. Gordon, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, second son of the late Colonel Gordon of Auchinleck, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.
Mr. Thomas Lugton, curator of Glasgow People's Palace, says that psalm-singing in Scotland was at its best in the sixties; then came the quick staccato rendering by solo preceptors; and this gave place in recent years to almost the exclusive use of Church of England hymns. In his opinion the use of metrical psalms in Scotland may soon be given up wholly, owing to an ever-increasing taste for rambling, rambling music.
Messrs. Schweppes, Ltd., have acquired the leasehold rights of the mineral wells of Pitkeathly, Bridge of Earn. The firm will continue the sale of Pitkeathly water, and probably other waters, at a factory in the town.
ORIENTAL.
William Montagu Hay, tenth Marquis of Tweeddale, 86. A younger son, who was educated at Haileybury College, entered the Indian Civil Service, and after serving as a district officer in the Punjab, in 1905, after the resignation of the previous

by Lord Dalhousie, was appointed Deputy Commissioner of Simla and Superintendent of the Hill States. He held these appointments during the Mutiny, and soon afterwards, along with his three brothers, made a journey in Tibet. In 1862 he returned to this country, and sat in Parliament as Liberal member for Taunton until, on the death of his brother, he succeeded to the Marquisate. When in Parliament he devoted his attention chiefly to Indian questions, his speeches on the Orissa famine and on systems of government in India attracting considerable attention. He might have held high position under Mr. Gladstone, but he could not follow his leader on Home Rule, and joined the ranks of the Unionist party. Thereafter his principal interest was in industrial undertakings; he was director of not a few limited liability companies, especially telegraph cable companies; in one of these, the Eastern Submarine Telegraph Co., he was for a while vice-chairman; and he took an active part in promoting cable communication with our Eastern possessions. For twelve years he was chairman of the North British Railway Co., and was five times Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.
Lord Ardwall (Andrew Jameson, Q. C.), a Judge in the Scottish Court of Session; previous to his elevation, he was in great request as an arbitrator or overseer.
Thomas Watson, ex-Magistrate and prominent citizen of Glasgow.

John Croall, Broughton Street, Edinburgh, has left his estate, estimated at £100,000, to Scottish charities, especially charities connected with Edinburgh.

HARVEST HOME.

The fiddler-on-the-feedin' kist strikes up wi' a' his might.
The lads are lined up tae the left, the lasses tae the right.
Will Mackintosh an' Maggie Orr face up, the fiddle begins.
We've started, the harvest mune, we'll feish wi' the sun.
The "Triumph" Flowers o' Edinbro', the fiddle and the reel.
(We dinnae fash wi' city fies, the auld times are the best).
Vince up an' doon, then swing a while, advance an' then retire.
(Tak' tent o' yon pair slinkin' roon the corner o' the byre).
That's the feishin'. Fech, I'm out o' breath! It's wae than cairn' druff.
Watch Cairns's griave an' Bell Colquhoun, his legs wad gae ye laugh;
He dances like a three-days' can, an' Bell is angared sair.
He's broke the string o' beads he bocht her doon at Connel Fair.
There's "Drops o' Brandy" strikin' up.
The guidman's on his feet.
The guidwife wins twine, she's fat an' ower indulged tae weel.
It's your turn noo. There, swing your legs an' haun' her ower the lam.
Guid wiles, ye're cooped me! Ye cam' at me like a man.
The fiddler's tired. We'll hae a sang, Here Jock, you gie us ye.
"The Yokie o' the White Moor," an' we'll keep the chorus gane;
An' them that canna sing, we'll let them tramp wi' their built.
(Jock made it up himself. The words'll send ye into fits).

Your health an' sang. Noo "Petroulla," partners for this dance.
Here, fiddler, gie us a quicker ill, "The Cheater o' France."
I never saw a guid a' tight since 'ever I was born.
But—few o' us will mak' an' early yoke the morn's morn.
C. J. R. in Glasgow Herald.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE CO.

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE
OCEAN MARINE INSURANCE CO.

TOTAL FUNDS AT END DECEMBER, 1910,
£21,252,693 17 3

—Authorized Capital £5,000,000

—Subscribed Capital £3,514,845

—Paid-up Capital £1,667,997 0 0

—Fire Funds £3,842,215 4 2

—Life & Annuity Funds £5,845,125 9 7

—Sinking Fund Account £7,368 18 6

£21,252,693 17 3

Revenue Fire Branch £2,373,269 17 7

—Life & Annuity £1,954,431 9 2

—Branches £3,842,215 4 2

Other Receipts £43,314 10 8

£24,971,315 17 6

The Accumulated Funds of the Fire and Life Departments are free from liability in respect of each other.

SHAW, TOMES & CO.
(Agents)

His Britannic Majesty's Ships on the China Station

Name.	Class.	Tons.	Guns.	H.P.	Commander.	Last report at
Alacrity	despatch vessel	1706	12	2000	Comdr. Lowndes	Weihaiwei
Atlas	cruiser, 2nd class	4360	10	7000	Captain E. B. Kiddle	Hongkong
Admiralty	tug	—	—	—	Master W. West	Hongkong
Bramble	river gunboat	710	2	900	Lt.-Comdr. B. G. Washington	Weihaiwei
Britannia	river gunboat	710	2	900	Lieut.-Comdr. J. M. Barker	Shanghai
Cadmus	sloop	1075	8	1400	Comdr. H. Lynes	Hongkong
Chorub	water tank and tug	390	—	800	Master H. Smith	Hongkong
Clio	sloop	1075	8	1400	Comdr. H. R. Veale	Hongkong
Fame	torpedo boat destroyer	340	6	8700	Lieut.-Comdr. H. S. Monroe	Weihaiwei
Flow	cruiser, 2nd class	4360	10	7000	Capt. J. Nicholas	Hongkong
Handy	torpedo boat destroyer	275	6	4000	Lt.-Comdr. Hon. Guy Stopford	Hongkong
Hart	torpedo boat destroyer	275	6	4000	—	Hongkong
Janus	torpedo boat destroyer	280	6	3900	Lt.-Comdr. M. B. R. Blackwood	Weihaiwei
Kent	cruiser, 1st class	9000	14	22,000	Capt. S. St. John Farquhar	Hongkong
Kinsale	river gunboat	618	4	1200	Lt.-Comdr. T. J. S. Lyne	Yangtze
Merlin	sloop	1040	—	—	Comdr. B. G. M. Davy	Hongkong
* Minotaur	cruiser, 1st class	14,600	—	27,000	Capt. Cayley	Hongkong
Monmouth	cruiser, 1st class	8800	—	—	Capt. L. E. Power, M.V.O.	Hongkong
Moorhen	river gunboat	180	2	800	Lt.-Comdr. G. P. Leith	Canton
Newcastle	cruiser, 2nd class	4300	—	—	Capt. G. E. P. Hunt, D.S.O.	Weihaiwei
Nightingale	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lieut.-Com. C. H. Woodward	Yangtze
Other	torpedo boat destroyer	330	6	5300	Comdr. C. L. Leimbo	Weihaiwei
Pegasus	cruiser	2132	—	—	Capt. F. H. Mitchell	Shanghai
Rosario	despatch vessel	980	—	1400	Lt.-Comdr. N. E. Archdale	Hongkong
Robin	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lt.-Com. C. A. O. Douglas	West River
Sandpiper	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lt.-Com. E. J. J. Southby	Canton
Saife	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lt.-Comdr. Maurice B. Leslie	Yangtze
Taku	torpedo boat destroyer	350	6	6800	Gunner E. J. Trillo	Hongkong
Tamar	receiving ship	4550	6	—	Commodore C. J. Eyre	Hongkong
Teal	river gunboat	180	2	800	Lt.-Comdr. R. J. Buchanan	Shanghai
Tailest	river gunboat	710	2	900	Lt.-Comdr. M. B. Hamilton	Shanghai
Virgo	torpedo boat destroyer	355	6	6300	Lieut.-Com. H. D. Adair-Hall	Weihaiwei
Waterwitch	surveying ship	620	—	450	Lt.-Comdr. Hancock	Singapore
Whiting	torpedo boat destroyer	360	6	5900	Lieut.-Comdr. G. B. Hartford	Weihaiwei
Widgeon	river gunboat	195	2	800	Lieut.-Comdr. B. R. Brooke	Yangtze
Woodcock	river gunboat	150	2	500	Com. M. H. Wilding	Upper Yangtze
Woodlark	river gunboat	150	2	500	Lt.-Comdr. G. F. A. Mulock	Upper Yangtze
33	submarine	—	—	—	Lt. C. Godfrey Herbert	Hongkong
37	submarine	—	—	—	Lt.-Comdr. A. A. L. Fenner	Hongkong
38	submarine	—	—	—	Lt. Comdr. J. R. A. Coddington	Hongkong

* Flagship of Vice-Admiral Alfred L. Winslow, K.C.B., O.V.O., C.M.G., Commander-in-Chief.

Foreign Men-of-war on the China and Japan Station

Name.	Flag and description.	Tons.	Guns.	H.P.	Captains.	Last report at
Kaiser Franz Joseph I	Austro-Hungarian cruiser	4000	—	—	Capt. Alfred Ciochi	Amoy
Dupleix †	French armoured cruiser	10,014	30	19,000	—	Saigon
Eliezer	French 1st class cruiser	9700	12	19,600	—	Saigon
Decidée	French gunboat	645	10	7000	Lieut. de Linares	Saigon
Argus	French river gunboat	180	6	570	Lieut. d'Estienne	Canton
Vigilante	French gunboat	123	7	500	Lieut. Biscail	Canton
Pelico	French gunboat	130	—	—	Lieut. Pusch	Tongkn
† Flagship of Rear-Admiral Colloch de Kerilla, Commander-in-Chief, the French China Station.						
Esturgeon	French sub-marine	—	—	—	Lieut. Combet	Saigon
Lynx	French sub-marine	—	—	—	Lieut. Marrs	Saigon
Perle	French sub-marine	800	—	—	—	Saigon
Protee	French sub-marine	—	—	—	Lieut. Morris	Saigon
Styr *	French armoured gunboat	1798	10	1700	Lieut. Seriot	Saigon
Frondie	French destroyer	360	7	303	—	Saigon
d'Iberville	French destroyer	—	—	—	—	—
Takou	French destroyer	250	9	—	—	Saigon (Reserv)
Pistolet	French destroyer	130	7	300	Comdr. Mortenel	Hongay
Mousquet	French destroyer "	307	6	300	Lieut. de la Roche Keranderson	Saigon
Vauban	French torpedo-depot	—	—	—	—	Hongay
Veteran	French torpedo-depot	—	—	—	Lieut. Bihel	Cap St. Jacques
Manche	French surveying-ship	1825	10	5000	Comdr. Ragot de Touche	Saigon
* Flagship of Capt. (Commodore) Boucléart, Commanding the local defence Indo-China						
Endon	German cruiser	3600	22	13,500	Capt. Vollerthun	Tsingtau
Gneissau	German armoured cruiser	11,600	38	26,000	Captain v. Ular	Tsingtau
Ilia	German gunboat	900	12	1300	Comdr. Merzmann	Shanghai
Jaguar	German gunboat	900	12	1300	Capt. Vasselow	Hongkong
Leipzig	German cruiser	3250	24	11,000	Capt. Schroeder	Tsingtau
Luchs	German gunboat	900	10	1350	Capt. Lt. Bondemann	Shanghai
Nürnberg	German cruiser	3400	22	13,200	Capt. Tigert (Karl)	Tsingtau
Other	German river gunboat	—	—	—	Capt. Lieut. Jantzen	Yangtze River
Scharnhorst	German flagship	11,600	38	26,000	Capt. Kraft	Tsingtau
S. 90	German torpedo-boat	400	8	6500	Capt. Lieut. Heyden	Tsingtau
Taku	German torpedo-boat	330	4	6000	Lieut. Kolbo (Hans)	Tsingtau
Tiger	German gunboat	900	10	1350	Comdr. Luppe	Shanghai
Thingtau	German river gunboat	223	4	1300	Capt. Lieut. Graf Dehna-Schlotheim	Canton
Vaterland	German river gunboat	223	4	600	Capt. Lieut. Kautzer	Shanghai

Sir Robert Burnett & Co.'s

CELEBRATED.

OLD TOM GIN
DRY GIN

IMPORTED AND BOTTLED BY

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

Wine and Spirit Merchants,

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

ESTABLISHED 70 YEARS.

'MOUTRIE'
PIANOS

HAVE NO EQUAL

For Beauty of Tone,

Perfection of Touch

and

Solidity of Construction.

PRICES from \$380.

GUARANTEED FOR
FIVE YEARS.

S. MOUTRIE & Co.,

LIMITED.

Hongkong, April 16, 1907

Powell's

Limited.

Children's Outfitting
Department.

New and Dainty

GOODS

FOR

Children's

Wear.

Wm. Powell, Ltd.

VICTORIA THEATRE.

DES VŒUX ROAD CENTRAL.

1.15 P.M. to 8.45 P.M. AND

8.15 P.M. to 11.15 P.M.

Re-appearance of the Eminent Artists

HARRIS and VERNON.

Extraordinary Success of

Miss LYNDIA DAVIES

TREAT ELECTRICAL DANSEUSE.

Monster Programmes during the week.

GRAND MATINEES

on the 30th and 31st December and

January 1st and 2nd.

MATINEES

SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS.

1.15 P.M. to 3.15 P.M.

Manchester Unity standard rates—will hold good, and he makes a strong comment in this connection when he says that the factor of compulsion which is operative in a State scheme will certainly cause a large increase in the rates of sickness, for "if you compel a man to ensure against sickness, you will generally find a determination on his part to get his money back somehow or other." So Mr BORLAND comes to the conclusion that the hope that the rates of sickness of a select Friendly Society, like the Manchester Unity, will measure the rates to be experienced under a compulsory scheme, is a hope not born of this earth. The Insurance scheme is to be worked through established Friendly and other Societies, and each man and woman is at liberty to choose the society they think best. Dealing with the compulsory grouping of Societies with less than 5,000 members, the writer says that this, however necessary it may appear, is bad, and he shows that the effect of it on the more thrifty Societies, who will be compelled to assist the less thrifty in the group, cannot be for good. After explaining that each Society or group must stand by itself and pay only the benefits it can afford, Mr BORLAND pens these significant words:—"The member will have absolutely no guarantee that for his contribution he will receive even the minimum benefits. In the early valuation many Societies are bound to have deficits, necessitating either imposition of levies or reduction of benefits. Not even the State will give any guarantee; its contribution is distinctly limited to the proportion of the benefits actually paid by the Society, whether less or more than the minimum benefits. As far as the individual now is concerned, the whole thing is little less than a lottery." Later on the author of the paper proves that the financial aspect of medical benefit, as it is of the whole scheme, is much too uncertain to give even the most optimistic individual an easy feeling about the future. Another damaging criticism is directed in regard to the proposals for maternity benefit, Mr BORLAND showing that the system of averaging, which is the essence of the whole scheme, and applying these average values to individual Societies, is brought to an absolute absurdity and will cause serious financial difficulties.

MEMOS FOR TO-MORROW.

10 a.m.—Extraordinary Meeting of China Commercial Co., Ltd.

General Memoranda.

Friday, December 29.—

9 p.m.—Dance.

Wednesday, January 10.—

12.30 p.m.—Extraordinary General Meeting of H.R. Jockey Club.

The China Mail

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27, 1911.

HASTY LEGISLATION.

As the sponsor of a measure good in principle but riddled through and through with weaknesses and faults, Mr LLOYD GEORGE has won for himself the title of "a sentimentalist in a hurry." The more one considers the National Insurance Bill and the indecent haste with which it was rushed through the House of Commons, the more truthful and appropriate does the appellation appear to be. We have recently had brought to our notice a most forceful critical analysis of the Bill in its financial and actuarial aspects in the form of a paper which was read before the Philosophical Society at Glasgow last month by Mr WALTER BORLAND, F.R.S. Prepared by a man who is obviously most competent to deal with the question, it is worthy of all the greater attention when it is borne in mind that the Bill is viewed not from any bigoted or biased standpoint, but is coldly and dispassionately analysed on its absolute merits. And though the writer shows every sympathy with the aim of the scheme, his criticisms strike so hard at the ill-considered proposals which it embraces that, after reading the paper, one comes to the conclusion that it were far better if the scheme were entirely cleaned and an altogether fresh beginning made, rather than that the measure should painfully operate and thereafter need constant patching up and revision.

We do not intend here to follow Mr BORLAND into all his arguments, but will pick up a few of his chief points, for we are publishing the full address in our news columns, in view of the continued controversy on the subject at home. After expressing approval of the principle of the Bill and asserting that the community has a right, for its own protection, to compel every person to make provision against sickness, Mr BORLAND clearly shows that a contributory scheme for national sickness insurance is necessary. He then goes on to make clear an important point—that the distinguished actuaries employed by the Government in connection with the Bill were in no wise responsible for its ultimate form; certain information was required and they provided it. There their duty ended. The writer shows that the calculations on which the Bill was framed could only be approximate in view of the fact that the census returns for 1901 had to be utilized and from these the figures worked up to May, 1910, the date of the initiation of the scheme. Mr BORLAND is doubtful how far the average rate of sickness upon which the calculations were made—the

NEWS OF THE DAY.

H.M.S. Kant and the destroyers Ush, Rubble and Welland have proceeded to Manila.

H.M.S. Cljo has left Shanghai for Hongkong. She will relieve the Rosaria at Canton.

The mail arrival board at the Post Office is now in operation. It is greatly appreciated.

A man was admitted to hospital on Tuesday suffering from injuries received from alighting from a tramcar whilst in motion.

The stealing of electric bulbs from the doorway of houses is now engaging the attention of thieves and it behooves householders to be on their guard.

The U.S. cruises California, Chicago, Maryland, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin are expected to arrive at Shanghai from San Francisco about January 10.

A fisherman reports to the police that his junk and another collided off Cape L'Aguiar. His boat became waterlogged and two persons are missing. It is believed that they have been drowned.

The pique has been again stoked in Des Vaux Road. This time attention was directed to the European constable. Fortunately a Chinese detective was close behind and arrested the man in the act.

The children of the members of the Club de Recreio, Kowloon, had a gala day on Tuesday when sports were held on the lawn. All thoroughly enjoyed themselves and numerous presents were distributed at the close.

The Radical papers in England are accusing the Opposition press of manufacturing Mary Ann's letters of protest against the Lloyd George Insurance Bill. They say they are the productions of trained journalists, not the literary achievements of servant girls. Of course the suggestion is warmly repudiated.

The mammoth H.A.L. liner Cleveland, with some 500 "round-the-world" tourists on board, arrived in port yesterday from Manila. Large crowds from the quay have been "doing" the sights of the colony, while a detachment left by special steamer for Canton to-day, another batch following to-morrow.

Last week there were 19 cases of communicable disease notified in the Colony—11 of small-pox (9 fatal), two of bubonic plague (one fatal), two of diphtheria (one fatal), two of enteric fever and one of purpural fever (all non-fatal). One of the cases of enteric and one of diphtheria were Britishers; all the others Chinese.

The Yokohama Office of the C. P. R. is in receipt of a wireless message from the R. M. S. Empress of India, sent at 9 p.m. Sunday, the 24th December, when the vessel was 1,350 miles distant from Japan, advising all well and that the Commandant expects to reach Yokohama at 6 a.m., on Friday, the 29th instant.

President Taft in his last message to Congress makes a strong plea for the adoption of a system of parcels post for the United States. Considerable space is devoted to a discussion of the enormous capacity of express companies in the United States and the consequent handicap put on the distribution of commodities. A comparison is made with the system of countries where the parcels post is in operation, greatly to the disadvantage of the United States.

While steaming up river with troops for the protection of the British Settlement at Hankow, the Indo-China steamer Kwongsang was fired on from the Hukow Forts at the entrance to the Poyang lake. Fortunately the vessel was not hit. She was being escorted by the British destroyer Whiting at the time which cleared for action and the ship was hoisted to the officers who put off from the forts were met by the Whiting and after explanations the ship was allowed to proceed.

We have received from the Secretary of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce copies of correspondence of much public interest. The letters relate to the "one-bottom" clause of the Payne Tariff law of 1909; the decision of the Government not to proceed with a bill for dealing with unlawful boarding of incoming steamers; the erection of a light on Kaping Island; the clearing up of a misunderstanding regarding certain importations of opium, in which Messrs David Sassoon and Co. were misrepresented during a debate in the Legislative Council; displaying of local storm signals in Kowloon Bay; public and bank holidays in 1912; and a series of letters which passed between the Colonial Secretary's office, Mr Figg, Director of the Observatory, and Commander Beckwith, of the Harbour Office, with reference to the displaying of the "red symbols" in local storm warnings. Mr Figg, arguing for their continuance, Commander Beckwith urging that they are now unnecessary.

SERIOUS SIDE OF A COLD.

Do you know that of all the minor ailments colds are by far the most dangerous? It is not the cold itself that you need to fear, but the serious diseases that it often leads to. Most of these are known as germ diseases. From pneumonia and consumption are among them. Why not take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and cure your cold while you can? It is sold by all Chemists and Druggists.

YOU FEEL A COLD APPROACHING? HOT bath, hot drink and a dose of PINKETTS form the best guarantee. Pinketts—dispel Constipation, ensure regularity, aid Digestion, cure Biliousness. For 69 cents of Chamberlain's, or free from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Someone has stolen a rickshaw at West Point.

The body of a female child has been picked up near No. 15, Wyndham Street.

A school-boy reports to the police that he left a bag, containing \$5,000, in a rickshaw.

A new flag will be flying in Singapore shortly as orders have been sent home for the banner of the Over-Sea Club.

The stretching of European caps from Chinese still continues and two or three cases have been reported to the police during the last day or two.

A collision has occurred in the harbour. The master of a licensed cargo boat reports to the police that while his boat was being towed by steam launch, Hoi Yuen a collision occurred with the steam launch Watkins.

In Jolo there is still chance of fighting, according to the latest reports in the Manila Times. The last of the recalcitrant Moros, still stubbornly refusing obedience to the government mandate as to the giving up of arms, have entrenched themselves on Mount Bag Dajo—that hill of bloody memory—to the number of 600. Around them the troops sent out by General Pershing are gathering, and artillery is being hurried to the front. A demand for surrender is to be sent to the Moro camp, and if this does not meet with a favourable reply a determined attack will be made.

CHAMBERLAIN ROAD

ALTERATIONS.

Mr Pollock's Queries.

At the Legislative Council meeting to be held next Thursday the Hon. Mr H. E. Pollock, K.C., will ask the following questions:—

1. What is the nature of the works which are in contemplation in the Hill District near the junction of the Chamberlain and Pokfulam Roads?
2. For what reason are such works being undertaken?
3. Has the question of the desirability of undertaking such works been laid before the Public Works Committee? If not, why not?
4. What is the estimated cost of such works?

GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

Mr. Bailey Alston, of the Foreign Office, is staying at Government House.

There will be an official dinner at Government House to-morrow night, to which the following have been invited:—Dr. and Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. Gompertz, Mr. and Mrs. Hallifax, Sir Paul Chater, Mr. and Mrs. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard, Mr. and Mrs. Pollock, Mrs. Reiss and Mr. and Mrs. Reiss, Mr. and Mrs. Cameron, Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds, Major Morgan, Commander and Mrs. Gregory, Mr. and Mrs. Inglis, Commander and Mrs. Eyres and the Misses Eyres, Mr. Cooke, Mr. and Mrs. Barton, Mr. and Mrs. Montague Ede, Mr. and Mrs. Robertson, Mr. L. G. Bird, Mr. J. M. Beck, Mr. and Mrs. Caddock, Mr. and Mrs. Denis, Dr. Fitzwilliams, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Forbes, Dr. and Mrs. Montagu Harston, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Harston, Mr. and Mrs. Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. Hutton Poole, Mrs. Swire and Mr. Swire, Mr. Young, Rev. Father Lynch, Mr. Stephenson-Jellie, Mr. Buley, Mr. and Mrs. Lindell, Captain Agg and Mr. Carter.

THE TYPHOON SIGNALS.

In the correspondence on various matters which have been recently engaging the attention of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce there is considerable reference to typhoon signals.

On Sept. 29th fifteen ship masters addressed a letter to the Chamber relative to displaying the local storm signals in Kowloon Bay. It is pointed out that the waters off the Colony chiefly used as harbours of refuge are Junk and Kowloon Bays and behind Stonecutters Island, and in the vicinity of these are the forts at Lyemun and the Stonecutters Island. The signatories therefore suggest that during the passing of a storm the Officer Commanding these forts be supplied from the Observatory with all information it is possible to give regarding the weather, both by night as well as by day. It is pointed out that although the experience of merchant vessels in the past is that they have received a prompt reply from these forts when called up, the information at the Chamber was meagre and it was suggested that His Majesty's Government request the Officer Commanding to pass on his more complete information to any vessel on demand by semaphore or more.

This appeal, with a covering letter from the Chamber, was forwarded to the Government on December 6th. No decision is yet notified. The question of dispensing with the red symbols in local storm warnings also figures largely in the papers sent us by the Chamber. A letter dated November 16th was despatched by the Colonial Secretary to the Chamber enclosing copies of minutes by the Director of the Observatory, the Registrar General and the Harbour Master. These minutes showed that Commander Beckwith expressed the opinion that the "red symbols" by day and the "three green lights" by night as a typhoon warning are detrimental to shipping and useless to the port. On the other hand Mr. Figg thought it would be unwise to proceed to dispense with the red signals, while the Chinese, whom the Registrar General consulted, were unwilling to take upon themselves the responsibility of making any recommendation. In these circumstances, His Excellency the Governor inquired whether in the opinion of the Committee of the Chamber it was desirable to make any change in the storm warnings now in use. The matter is now under consideration by the Chamber.

HONGKONG'S HOLIDAYS.

The question of the uneven distribution of Public and Bank Holidays is receiving the attention of the Hongkong Government. On October 13th the Colonial Secretary wrote to the Chamber of Commerce pointing out the list of Public and Bank Holidays to be observed in the coming year, and drawing attention to the fact that during the six months from December to May, both inclusive, there are 94 holidays, while during the remaining six months of the year there are only 70 holidays. The letter ended as follows:—"His Excellency the Governor believes that it will be generally recognised that this uneven distribution of holidays in each year is unsatisfactory and would be glad to learn whether such is also the opinion of your Chamber, and if so whether you have any proposal to make for the better distribution of holidays throughout the calendar year. It has been suggested that a holiday should be celebrated on Trafalgar Day, October 10th, in lieu of that on White Monday."

In their reply, the Committee of the Chamber stated, in reference to the suggestion that a holiday should be celebrated on Trafalgar Day in lieu of that on White Monday, that there was a strongly expressed opinion from some quarters against dropping so old established and typically English holiday as Whit Monday; with which view the Committee were in agreement. The Committee, however, believed that an extra holiday might with advantage be instituted in October and suggested the 25th Monday in this month rather than Trafalgar Day.

AT THE MAGISTRACY.

A fine of \$25 was imposed by Mr. C. Dick Malbourne at the Magistrate's this morning, on a shopkeeper, who failed to notify a case of small-pox.

At the Marine Court this morning, A. T. Allan, chief officer of the s.s. Hai Chow, charged two cooks of the same ship for assault. The case was remanded, bail being allowed of \$250 each.

A man who broke into a house at Shaokwan and stole clothing to the value of about \$40 was arrested at Aberdeen. At the Magistrate's to-day he was awarded three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

A Chinese constable arrested a man for stealing a diamond earring, value \$400, from a woman in the street. The ring was recovered and a sentence of three months' imprisonment, four hours' stocks and twenty-four strokes of the "cat" was imposed.

A fireman on the s.s. Hydra appeared before Mr. E. A. Irving, at the Magistrate's this morning, on a charge of recklessly discharging a revolver in a house in Sampson Street, and with having a revolver in his possession without a license. Evidence was given to the effect that defendant was in the house and was examining a revolver which he had with him when it went off. The bullet struck the floor and rebounded to the right foot of one of the female inmates. Defendant pleaded guilty and said that it was Christmas time. He had never had a revolver in his life before and since then he had thrown it away. A fine of \$1 was imposed and defendant was ordered to pay \$4 compensation. On the charge of having the revolver in his possession his Worship cautioned defendant.

At the opening meeting of the Royal Society of Arts, Lord Sanderson presided and gave an interesting address on the subject of the development of international intercourse, which included a brief survey of British relations with China and Japan. Amongst those awarded medals for papers were—Mr. James Cantlie, M.A., M.B., O.M., F.R.C.S., D.P.H., Plague and its Spread; Mr. F. Douglas Osborne, M.Inst. M.E., The Tin Resources of the Empire.

CANTON AFFAIRS.

House-to-House Visitation.

It has already been pointed out that the people of Canton are up in arms against the house-to-house visitation carried on by the soldiers, ostensibly in search of arms, bombs and evidences of suspected traitors. The anticipated danger is the activity of the so-called "Protecting the Emperor Association," and apparently there are a good many connected therewith in Canton. They seem to be waiting their opportunity and getting together arms, ammunition, as well as bombs. These people are the object of the soldiers' search. Meanwhile bands of men are wandering about and entering houses without permission or leave. The Acting Viceroy has issued two proclamations whose object it is to control this intrusion. It does not appear that the domiciliary visits are to be suppressed altogether; they are to be placed under more or less control. In the first instance, no soldiers are to be permitted to enter private houses unless they have been previously empowered with a warrant from the authorities; secondly, they are not to rush in pell-mell, but the people of the street are to be notified, and in this way all know what is going on, and will see that no private robberies are attempted. It is not without interest to notice the reason for issuing this proclamation, at least one of the reasons. If soldiers carry off as they have been doing in the past, they are making themselves the laughing-stock of foreigners, and bringing the people's army into scorn and derision. This fact they should remember and, therefore, if for no other reason, they must desist from unwarranted intrusions. The unfortunate fact of the affair is that apparently the Viceroy has not at his disposal power to enforce his laws. This is to say, the people's army is made up of all kinds, and many members are by no means the most respectable characters. If he tries to enforce his commands, then the men themselves will rebel, and there will be a terrible state of affairs. In fact, for the present, the Viceroy seems to be living on the sufferance of the army, and if it decides to obey it will obey; if not, then it will go its own way. Apparently he is powerless to stop the fighting and massacres that now take place. There is another aspect of the matter which is troubling the Viceroy. The soldiers not only shoot suspected persons, but they cut them open, take out their hearts, and carry them on bamboo through the streets.

SUNNY EXECUTION OF CHINA YING-CHOW.

This unfortunate man made himself very obnoxious to the reformers after the rising of last April. He was appointed by the Viceroy to act as a spy, and was very eager in ferreting out suspected persons. Several men lost their lives through his instrumentality alone. He has been in hiding since the outbreak, two months ago, and could not be found. Recently he ventured from his place of hiding, and was seen in a restaurant, where he was at once arrested. Without any regular trial, as far as we can see, the man was dragged outside the east gate and shot on the spot.

His special plan it seemed was to take passage on board river steamers, and, disguised, listen to the talk of the passengers. As these steamers have long been a hotbed of revolutionary propaganda, it was easy for the spy to listen, note the persons, and then to find out where they lived; under the reign of terror that then existed, there was little chance of their escaping if once hailed before a magistrate, and charged with complicity with the reformers.

VICTORIA THEATRE.

The Victoria Theatre provided monster programmes during the holidays, and the films were much appreciated. Miss Lynda Davis is meeting with great success while Harris and Vernon re-open for a short season to-night. Grand matinees are to be held from the 30th December to January 2nd. Following the custom of recent years, Messrs Ramos and Ramos are giving away prizes at the matinees on New Year's Day.

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER.

WHEN buying a cough medicine for children bear in mind that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is most effective for colds, cough and whooping cough, and that it contains no harmful drugs. For sale by all Chemists and Druggists.

PORT WINES.

From the 'oldest and most reliable Oporto Houses;

Messrs Guimaraens & Co.

During the coming Festive Season, every house requires a good

Port, so call and inspect our Stock and you will be

convinced that for quality and prices we

cannot be beaten.

TELEPHONE No. 128.

H. Price & Co., Ltd.

14, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

BY TELEGRAPH. BY TELEGRAPH.

NEW SHIPPING COMPANY.

(Copyright.)
Independent News Agency's Service
to the China Mail.

Tokyo, Dec. 27.
It is proposed to establish a new shipping company to be named the Nanyo Kisen Kaisha (South Sea Steamship Co.) at Osaka.
The capital will be three million yen.

THE REVOLUTION.

AN IMPERIAL WITHDRAWAL.

(With Tse Yat Po's Service.)
SHANGHAI, Dec. 27.

The Imperial Government has, through the medium of a certain foreign Consul, been in negotiation with General Li Yuan Heng respecting the position at Hanyang. The Government has been told that it would become necessary to hand back the city to the Revolutionists, but asked the Consul to suggest the following conditions:—That the Imperial troops should be allowed to retire into Wu Shing Kwan, that they be permitted to take their arms and ammunition with them, that they should not be attacked by the Revolutionists, and that security be given by either side for the observance of these stipulations.

CANTON TROOPS AT NANKING.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 27.

The troops which left Canton a few days ago have proceeded to Nanking.

PLOT TO ASSASSINATE YUAN SHIH KAI.

Yuk Long, a Manchian high official, originated a plot to assassinate Yuan Shih Kai but the plot was discovered and he was arrested.

A certain Dane has suggested to Yuan Shih Kai that it would be advisable to prevent the Revolutionists until such time as the Imperial forces in the provinces of Shanung, Chuchow and Honan were strengthened. When that was accomplished then the Imperialists could proceed southwards in order to capture the other towns.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUED.

The negotiations for peace were continued by Dr. Wu Ting-fang and Tang Shao-yi to-day.

THE PERSIAN CRISIS.

Reuter's Service to the China Mail.

London, December 26.

Reuter's correspondent at Teheran states that the Persian Cabinet has notified Mr. Shuster, the Treasurer General, of his dismissal.

It is reported at Shiraz that Persian road guards fired on the Indian sowars who were proceeding to meet the British consul. One sowar was killed.

"APPALLING BUTCHERY."

Reuter's correspondent at Teheran says telegrams from the Vice Governor of Tabriz represent the situation there as appalling. He says:—"I swear before God that innocent women and children are being butchered in cold blood. Five hundred Persians have already been killed, and part of the most ancient and finest edifices in Persia is totally destroyed."

TROOPS FOR TABRIZ.

Reuter's Service to the China Mail.

London, Dec. 27.

Reuter's St. Petersburg correspondent wires that a telegram from the Russian Consul (?) at Julia states that three Rifle Regiments, three regiments of Cossacks and two Mountain Batteries are leaving for Tabriz.

BOXING.

Reuter's Service to the China Mail.

London, Dec. 26.

Reuter's correspondent at Sydney states that in a boxing match Sam McVea beat Sam Langford.

THE FIGHTING IN MOROCCO.

Reuter's Service to the China Mail.

London, Dec. 26.

Reuter's correspondent at Madrid states that there were further furious attacks on the Spanish positions in the Malilla yesterday and today. The Spanish casualties were 37 killed and 41 wounded.

AUSTRALIAN CRICKET.

(Copyright.)

M.C.C. AT BENDIGO.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

London, December 26.

The weather was bright and cool for the opening of the match between the M.C.C. Eleven versus a Bendigo Fifteen at Bendigo to-day. There was a fair attendance and the wicket was in good condition.

The M.C.C. knocked out 170 in their first venture, Hobbs scoring 67. Scott took four wickets for 53.

At the close of the day's play the Bendigo team had registered 122 for the loss of six wickets.

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THE REVOLUTION.

Shanghai Conference Notes.

The N.C. Daily News prints a little fuller version of Dr. Wu Ting-fang's opening speech at the Shanghai Peace Conference than was conveyed in our special telegram a week ago. He spoke in substance as follows:—"The people of China will accept no other form of government than a Republic founded upon the will of the people. Since we can appoint delegates to represent us both in the various Provincial Assemblies and in the National Assembly at Peking, why are we not qualified to elect a President as the chief executive of the nation?"

The Manchus have shown their utter impossibility of governing the people for 237 years. They must go out. A government may be well likened to a trading company. If the manager, through incapacity or dishonesty, causes the failure of the company, he has no business to continue in office; a new manager must be elected by the shareholders. The Republic Party does not intend to drive the Manchus out, nor to ill-treat them. On the contrary, they want to place them on a perfect equality with the Chinese enjoying together the blessings of liberty, equality and fraternity."

Dr. Wu expressed his readiness to accept Dr. Wu's views but as the matter was one of the greatest importance, he had to communicate with Peking.

The document was initiated by the two Commissioners.

According to other information Tang Shao-yi's position was even more strongly put. He expressed himself personally disposed for the republicans, as the only basis of stable government, but raised the question of Tibet, Turkistan and Mongolia and how they would be affected.

Dr. Wu Ting-fang replied that there would be no difficulty there; the scheme for China Proper would include all.

On the first day of the Conference, the representatives in Shanghai of the six great Powers—Messrs. E. D. H. Fraser, C.M.G. (Great Britain), Amos P. Wilder (U.S. of America), P. von Buri (Germany), Dejan de la Bigne (France), V. Grosse (Russia) and A. Arizono (Japan), all Consuls-General in Shanghai for the nations they represent, called upon Dr. Wu Ting-fang, Foreign Secretary of the Provisional Republic Government, and each presented an identical note:—"To make the following unofficial representations to the Commissioners whose task it is to negotiate the conditions for restoring peace in China: that their Governments considered that the continuation of the present struggle in China exposed not only the country itself, but also material interests and the security of foreigners, to grave danger. Maintaining the attitude of absolute neutrality, which they had hitherto adopted, these Powers deemed it their duty unofficially to call the attention of the two delegates to the need of arriving, as soon as possible, at an understanding, calculated to put an end to the present conflict, being persuaded that this view was in accordance with the wishes of the two parties concerned."

DR. WU TING-FANG'S REPLY.

Dr. Wu Ting-fang having thanked the Consuls for calling upon him said, in effect, that having heard the representations from their respective governments he would pay due regard to them. He was a man of peace and a member of several peace societies, and that inclining his principles, he had never said that he would do his best to accomplish what was desired as far as he could. It had to be remembered that the Chinese were fighting for liberty, freedom and good government; and further, that if peace was hastily patched up, without due consideration, it might lead to serious consequences. If another revolution were to break out, it would be much worse than the present one, and therefore great care had to be taken to secure a peace which would be based upon solid foundations and be permanent and lasting. If peace could be secured upon these terms, it would not only be beneficial to all foreigners in China, but to all foreign nations, and he felt sure that the Consuls and their respective Governments would see the justice of his remarks and would sympathize with the aims of his party. He would do his best to secure peace on these terms; and if he could do so in a way not contrary to the instructions of his people, they might rest assured that he would do so.

A DISTINGUISHED MEMBER.

In the peace conference now sitting, the chief assistant to Dr. Wu Ting-fang, the Peace Commissioner for the Republican Party, is Mr. Wen Tung-yao, who has had a distinguished career since entering the political arena some ten years ago. Mr. Wen is a native of Canton, and was born in 1877, thus being 44 years of age. Educated at Queen's College, Hongkong, he talks English fluently and has assumed with an equal ease Western ideas of government and politics, with the result that to-day he is one of the foremost men of his party. In the closing years of last century he received his first official post, that of Foreign Secretary to the Customs of Tientsin and then in the opening years of the present century he acted as secretary to the Chinese Commissioners during the negotiations of the Mackay Treaty of Commerce. From 1903 to 1908 he was successively engaged as Director of Foreign Affairs in Canton of the Canton Hankow Railway, the Telegraph Administration of Kwangtung and Kwangsi Provinces, the Telephone Administration in Canton, and of the Military College for officers at Canton. In 1908 he was appointed Minister Resident to Tibet and this he held until 1910. He was recalled to act as adviser on Foreign Affairs to the Viceroy of Hankow, which post he held until quite recently. Now he has been elected as Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs in the new Government of the United Provinces of China and as delegate to assist Dr. Wu in the peace conference.

THE WUCHOW TRAGEDY.

No details of the distressing accident at Wuchow, resulting in the death of Mr. Blumenberg, agent of the Asiatic Petroleum Co., are yet to hand, save that the revolver was accidentally fired by Lieutenant Tyndall, of H.M.S. Robin.

MACAO NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

MACAO, December 26.

Captain Hugo de Lacerda Castello Branco, our new Harbour Master, has relieved Lieut. Ribeiro of the interim charge of the Harbour Office. Though I had occasion to refer some time ago to this highly endowed officer, whose name is written large in his country's history, as Harbour Master-designate and Commissioner-elect for the Macao boundary question, it appears that Capt. Lacerda has come over in the former capacity alone—mayhap till the clouds roll by.

They are, to all appearances, in for a pack of troubles up the delta. On her last two trips the Canton boat brought us quite an unwelcome load of human freight, and the influx is swelling apace. From refugees I glean that the atmosphere in the City of Peking is waiting too electrical for comfort. Anti-Manchu rancour is apparently no longer the dominant note. The revolutionists are now split into two contending factions. To Pong Tang and the Kok Sang Teng. The latter, we already know, advocate the extinction of the Manchu dynasty, and the former, while the former who are not a whit less partial to the luckless nobility, nevertheless incline to the retention of the infant Emperor or, failing him, to the investment of Yuan Shih Kai with the Imperial Diadem.

The fifth and last annual high-day decreed by the Lie-shan Government was officially hailed on Dec. 25 in the good old style by the boom of artillery at mid-day. Surges of glimmering jets picked out public buildings as familiar at the merry festival heard. Though Republican Portugal has elected to set at naught the yoke of the Sublime Gallian, the mystic glamour of Yuletide still holds the average Portuguese in thrall. And, what with inherited influences and traditions, practice still lings behind many of the customs of the past. It was but one of the inherent anomalies of casualty that the first recurrence of Christmas Eve, since State and Church parted company, should have drawn a record congregation at the Church of San Lázaro for the mid-night service. Feasibly—in a sad age time out of mind on the high seas, had been lying here for some time back in enforced idleness, was boarded by a gang of 50 armed raiders who ransacked the vessel from stem to stern and made off with 40 rifles and 19 sabre-bayonets.

A RECENT VISITOR.

"An American" sends the following letter to the Peking Daily News:—

Recent dispatches published in your paper concerning the movements of Dr. Sun Yat Sen stated that when in London he was accompanied by "the American General" Homer Lea, who was announced as future commander-in-chief of the revolutionary forces in China.

It may be of interest to your readers to know something of the career and claim to fame of this "American General" who has, apparently, been selected by Dr. Sun to supersede in military command Generalissimo Huang Shing. General Li Yuan-Hung and others.

Homer Lea (is not a general of the American army nor has he ever been connected with that institution. So far as can be discovered, his only connection with any military or semi-military organization in the United States was that of an officer in a company of Chinese cadets in California. Mr. Lea is only known in the United States as a contributor to magazines and a writer of books. He once wrote a novel of Chinese life which any candid critic must concede to be one of the poorest of the many poor books written about China, and more recently he published "The Valor of Ignorance" in which he revealed the case with which Japan could conquer the United States. This latter is the only book of a military nature of which he has been guilty. Some light on his title of "General" is furnished by the sketch Mr. Lea has furnished of Who's Who in America. In this we find that he is:—

"Undertook the relief of Kwang Han, Emperor of China, in 1900-01; he raised and commanded the Second Army Division in 1904, holding rank of Lieutenant-General over those forces."

It is evident from this that his only claim to the title of General rests upon service in, or in connection with, China. I wonder if any of your readers can shed additional light upon this famous "relief of Emperor Kwang Han" and this "Second Army Division."

I have been unable to find anything concerning these two important movements in my reading of Chinese history. Can it be that "General" Lea's Second Army Division was that small crowd of Chinese cadets in California?

His "expedition for the relief of the Emperor Kwang Han" is equally a mystery to me. His Excellency Kang Wu-wai, who once had a society for the relief of, or support of, the late Emperor, has denied that he ever conferred upon Mr. Lea the title of "General" or any other title.

In any event Mr. Lea has no possible claim to the title of an "American General," so far as I have been able to discover. Certainly he is not a general of the American army, nor has he ever had any connection with that army.

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